

OPTN Minority Affairs and Kidney Transplantation Committees
Reassess Race in Estimated Glomerular Filtration Rate (eGFR) Calculation Workgroup
Meeting Summary
June 16, 2022
Conference Call

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Introduction

The Reassess Race in eGFR Calculation Workgroup (the Workgroup) met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 6/16/2022 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Transition, Monitoring, Education/Communication and Member Compliance plans
2. Review Policy Language and Vote

The following is a summary of the Workgroup's discussions.

1. Transition, Monitoring, Education/Communication and Member Compliance plans

The Workgroup reviewed implementation plans for the *Modify Waiting Time for Candidates Affected by Race-Inclusive eGFR Calculations* proposal.

Summary of discussion:

The Workgroup discussed whether transition procedures would be necessary for the implementation of the *Modify Waiting Time for Candidates Affected by Race-Inclusive eGFR Calculations* proposal. The Workgroup determined that no special transition procedure would be necessary. Although this policy change could impact the order in which kidneys are allocated on the waiting list, this impact was anticipated and is supported by the work and evidence of the Workgroup with the goal of increasing equity in access to transplantation for impacted Black kidney candidates.

The Workgroup discussed and approved the proposed monitoring plan. A member confirmed that metrics regarding the number of candidates on dialysis, number of registered candidates, and number of candidates currently accruing waiting time would be monitored by the *Establish OPTN Requirement for Race-Neutral eGFR Calculations* proposal. UNOS research informed the Workgroup that metrics for the *Establish OPTN Requirement for Race-Neutral eGFR Calculations* proposal and the *Modify Waiting Time for Candidates Affected by Race-Inclusive eGFR Calculations* proposals will be reported to the sponsoring committees together in one monitoring presentation. A member suggested analyzing urbanicity vs. rurality to measure how near or far a candidate is from their center, as this could have and an impact on equity in access.

The Workgroup discussed the education and communication plan including memos to members, release of news articles, updates to both the OPTN and UNOS websites, development of FAQs for both the public and transplant hospital audiences, and use of social media.

No compliance component is needed as transplant programs are not required to submit eGFR waiting time modifications. UNOS site survey will monitor GFR values entered into the OPTN computer system based on the review of OPTN Policy 8.4.A criteria.

2. Review Policy Language and Vote

The Workgroup reviewed policy language and voted on recommending the *Modify Waiting Time for Candidates Affected by Race-Inclusive eGFR Calculations* proposal to the sponsoring committees.

Summary of discussion:

The Workgroup reviewed the language and discussed the second option for required documentation: “Documentation showing both the estimation of GFR with a race- inclusive calculation and a re-estimation of GFR with race-neutral calculation”. Some members suggested that documentation demonstrating the use of an original, race-inclusive eGFR calculation should not be required when a submitting an eGFR waiting time modification. Other members pushed back on this idea, noting that the lack of original documentation would open more opportunity for gaming due to the inability to verify that a candidate was listed with a race- inclusive eGFR calculation. Ultimately, the Workgroup determined that documentation showing the estimation of GFR with a race- inclusive calculation would be necessary when submitting a modification requesting using the second option for required documentation.

The Workgroup was asked to vote on the following:

Does the Workgroup recommend sending Modify Waiting Time for Candidates Affected by Race-Inclusive eGFR Calculations to the Sponsoring Committees?

Support-7, Abstain- 0, Oppose- 0

Next Steps

The OPTN Minority Affairs and Kidney Transplantation Committees will vote on sending *Modify Waiting Time for Candidates Affected by Race-Inclusive eGFR Calculations* to the August 2022 public comment period.

Upcoming Meetings

- TBD

Attendance

- **Workgroup Members**
 - Bea Concepcion
 - Amaka Eneanya
 - Denise Alveranga
 - Dolamu Olaitan
 - Paulo Martins
 - Martha Pavlakis
 - Irene Kim
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Vanessa Arriola
 - Jim Bowman
 - Marilyn Levi
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Bryn Thompson
 - Jonathan Miller
 - Ajay Israni
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Carol Covington
 - Kayla Temple
 - Kelley Poff
 - Kim Uccellini
 - Jesse Howell
 - Lauren Mauk
 - Lauren Motley
 - Lindsey Larkin
 - Liz Robbins Callahan
 - Michelle Rabold
 - Rebecca Murdock
 - Sara Moriarty
 - Stryker-Ann Vosteen